

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 8-10, 12-20 and 22 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 16 are the independent claims. Claims 1-6, 8-10 and 20 stand allowed. By this Amendment, claims 11, 21 and 23-25 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. As the claims are amended only to include allowable subject matter, no new matter is added that would require further consideration and/or search.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant appreciates the indication that the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on September 24, 2008 has been considered. Applicant respectfully requests that an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449 be returned to Applicant indicating receipt and consideration of the reference listed thereon.

Allowed/Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-6, 8-10 and 20 are allowed and claim 16 is indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. As claim 16 is rewritten in independent form, all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 11-15, 17-19 and 21-25 are rejected under 35 USC §102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0195883 to Lazzaro, et al (Lazzaro). As claims 11 and 21-25 are cancelled, the rejection of those claims is moot. Claims 12-15 and 17-19 and 22 are allowable for their dependency on allowable claim 16.

As only allowable subject matter is pending, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the objections and rejections and allowance of each of the pending claims of this application is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John W. Fitzpatrick at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

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